

11/20/2009

Application No. 10/688,551
November 16, 2009

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Previously Presented): A taste masking composition comprising (a) micropellets each of which comprises a core including one or more antibiotic particles wherein said micropellets further comprise (b) an inner coating on the core containing antibiotic particles comprising at least one cellulose polymer selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, carboxymethylethyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, ethylcarboxyethyl cellulose, and combinations thereof and (c) an outer coating comprising an enteric coating polymer disposed adjacent the inner coating, wherein the enteric coating polymer is selected from the group consisting of a copolymer of methacrylic acid and methyl methacrylate, and a copolymer of methacrylic acid and ethyl acrylate, and wherein said coated micropellets have a particle size of about 100 μm to about 650 μm .

Claim 2. (Currently Amended): A taste masking composition comprising (a) granular micropellets each comprising a core including one or more antibiotic particles comprising clarithromycin and having a particle size of about 0.1 μm to about 100 μm wherein said micropellets further comprise (b) an inner coating on the core containing antibiotic particles consisting essentially of at least one cellulose polymer selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, carboxymethylethyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, ethylcarboxyethyl cellulose, and combinations thereof and (c) an outer coating adjacent the inner coating comprising an enteric coating polymer, wherein the enteric coating polymer is selected from the group consisting of a copolymer of methacrylic acid and methyl methacrylate, and a copolymer of methacrylic acid and ethyl acrylate, and wherein said coated micropellets have a particle size of about 100 μm to about 650 μm .

Claim 3. (Cancelled)

Claim 4. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the cellulose polymer is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose and hydroxypropyl cellulose.

Claim 5. (Original): The composition according to Claim 4, wherein the cellulose polymer is hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose.

Claims 6 – 7. (Cancelled)

Claim 8. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the enteric coating is a poly(methacrylic acid, ethyl acrylate)1:1.

Claim 9. (Previously Presented): A taste masking composition comprising micropellets each of which includes (a) a core comprising one or more bitter-tasting antibiotic particles, wherein the amount of antibiotic particles in the core comprises from about 1 wt. % to about 80 wt. %, based on the total weight of the micropellet, (b) an inner coating on the core containing the one or more antibiotic particles consisting essentially of at least one cellulose polymer selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, carboxymethylethyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, ethylcarboxyethyl cellulose, and combinations thereof and (c) an outer coating adjacent the inner coating comprising an enteric coating polymer, wherein the enteric coating polymer is selected from the group consisting of a copolymer of methacrylic acid and methyl methacrylate, and a copolymer of methacrylic acid and ethyl acrylate and wherein said coated micropellets have a particle size of about 100 μm to about 650 μm .

Claim 10. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 9, wherein the antibiotic particles comprise from about 5 wt. % to about 50 wt. %, based on the total weight of the micropellet.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 10, wherein the antibiotic ~~is~~ particles comprise from about 20 wt. % to about 35 wt. %, based on the total weight of the micropellet.

Claim 12. (Original): The composition according to Claim 1 in the form of an oral suspension, capsule, caplet, powder, or tablet.

Claim 13. (Original): An oral suspension comprising the composition according to Claim 1.

Claims 14-20. (Cancelled)